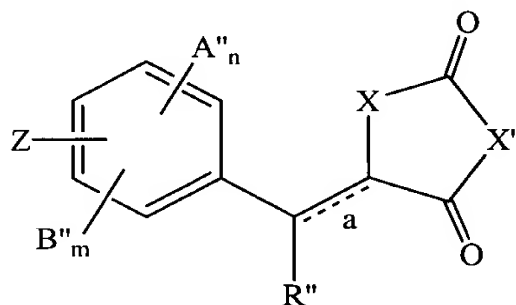


Amendments to the Claims:

The following claims will replace all prior versions of the claims in this application (in the unlikely event that no claims follow herein, the previously pending claims will remain):

1-60. (Cancelled).

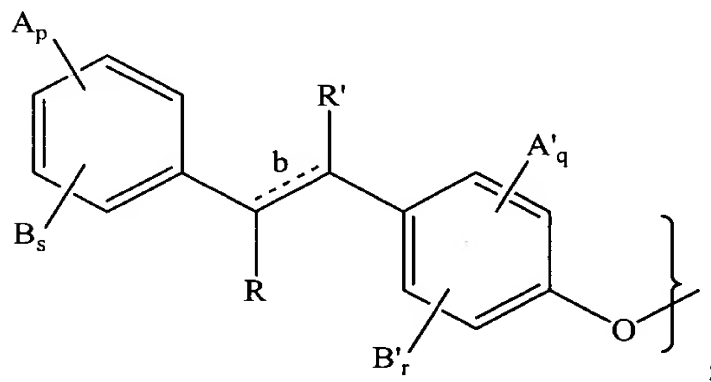
~~61.~~ (Previously presented) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

wherein Z is



n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may

be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; -CONR₂'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; or -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; optionally substituted C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; optionally substituted C₆-C₁₀ aryl; or NR₂'''' represents a cyclic ~~moiety~~ moiety;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A'' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B'' each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'', -O-, or -S-.

C) ² ~~62.~~ (Currently amended) A method according to claim ¹ ~~61~~, wherein R' represents ~~-CO₂R''', -CO₂R'', -CO₂Z' or -CONR₂''''~~ wherein R''' represents hydrogen or methyl or at least one R''' independently represents a hydrogen atom, methyl, or methoxy.

63. (Cancelled)

64. (Cancelled)

³ ~~65.~~ (Previously presented) A method according to claim ¹ ~~61~~, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

⁴ ~~66.~~ (Previously presented) A method according to claim ² ~~62~~, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

⁵ ~~67.~~ (Currently amended) A method according to claim ⁵² ~~63~~ 115, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

⁶ ~~68.~~ (Currently amended) A method according to claim ^{5A} ~~64~~ 117, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

⁷ ~~69.~~ (Currently amended) A method according to claim ¹ ~~62~~ ~~61~~, wherein the bond labeled "a" in formula 1 a represents a single bond and ~~b represents a double bond.~~

⁸ ~~70.~~ (Currently amended) A method according to claim ¹ ~~62~~ ~~61~~, wherein at least ~~two~~ one A group represents ~~groups represent~~ methoxy.

²
97. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~62~~², wherein at least two A groups represent a hydrogen ~~bond~~ atom.

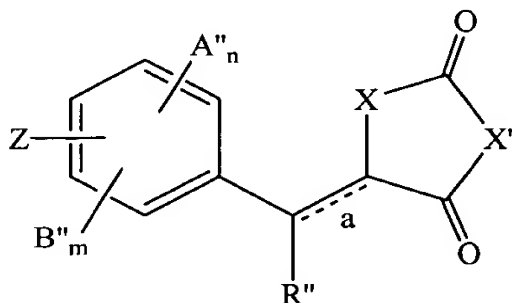
⁸
107. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~70~~⁸, wherein at least two A groups represent a hydrogen ~~bond~~ atom.

Cl
aut
⁵³
117. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~61~~⁵³, wherein R' is carbomethoxy and ~~116~~⁵³ wherein said A is group represents methoxy.

⁵⁵
127. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~64~~⁵⁵ wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.

⁸
137. (Currently amended) The method of claim ~~62~~⁸ ~~70~~ wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.

¹⁴
147. (Previously presented). A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:

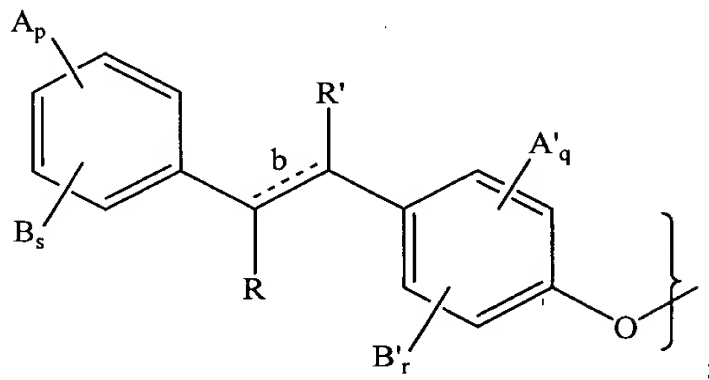


[1]

in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

C

wherein Z is



H; A'' ; or B'' ;

n , m , q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-CO_2Z'$; $-CO_2R'''$; $-NH_2$; $-NHR'''$; $-NR_2'''$; $-OH$; $-OR'''$; $-CONR_2'''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-CO_2Z'$; $-CO_2R'''$; $-NH_2$; $-NHR'''$; $-NR_2'''$; $-OH$; $-OR'''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; or $-(CH_2)_x-Ar$, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; optionally substituted C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; optionally substituted C₆-C₁₀ aryl; or NR₂'''' represents a cyclic moiety; ~~moiety~~ moiety;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, and A' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

01 A'' independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; or halo;

B, B' and B'' each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A'' and B'' jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'', -O-, or -S-.

15 14
71. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 76, wherein R' represents ~~-CO₂R'''; -CO₂R'''; -CO₂Z'~~ or -CONR₂'''' ~~wherein R''' represents hydrogen or methyl or at least one R''' independently represents a hydrogen atom, methyl, or methoxy.~~

78. (Cancelled)

C

⁷⁴
16⁷⁹. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 137 ~~76~~, wherein ~~R' represents~~
~~CONR₂'''~~ wherein both R''' are the same and represent a hydrogen atom, methyl, or
methoxy.

¹⁴
17⁸⁰. (Previously presented) A method according to claim ~~76~~, wherein X is -S- and X' is
>NH.

¹⁵
18⁸¹. (Previously presented) A method according to claim ~~77~~, wherein X is -S- and X' is
>NH.

C¹ 19⁸². (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~78~~ ⁷⁰ 133, wherein X is -S- and X'
is >NH.

20⁸³. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~79~~ ⁷² 135, wherein X is -S- and X'
is >NH.

21⁸⁴. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~77~~ ¹⁴ ~~76~~, wherein the bond labeled
"a" in formula 1 a represents a single bond and b represents a double bond.

22⁸⁵. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~77~~ ¹⁵, wherein at least ~~two~~ one A
~~groups represent~~ group represents methoxy.

23⁸⁶. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~77~~ ¹⁵, wherein at least two A groups
represent a hydrogen ~~bond~~ atom.

24⁸⁷. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~85~~ ²², wherein at least two A groups
represent a hydrogen ~~bond~~ atom.

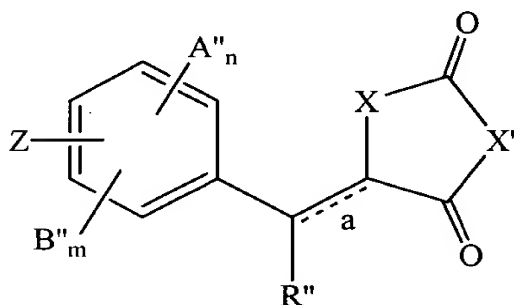
25⁸⁸. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ~~76~~, wherein ~~R' is carbomethoxy~~
and ⁷¹ 134 wherein said A group represents is methoxy.

C

²⁶
~~89~~ (Currently amended) The method of claim ⁷³~~76~~ ¹³⁶ wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.

²⁷
~~90~~ (Currently amended) The method of claim ²²~~77~~ ⁸⁵ wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.

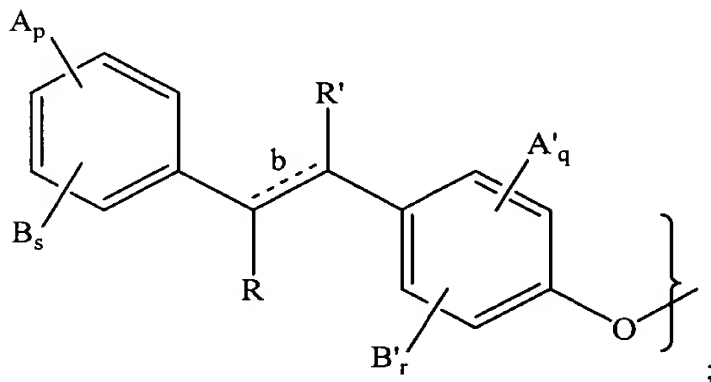
²⁸
~~91~~ (Previously presented) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:



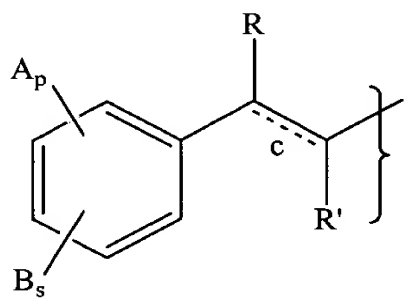
[1]

in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

wherein Z is



or



n , m , q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a , b and c represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-CO_2Z'$; $-CO_2R''''$; $-NH_2$; $-NHR''''$; $-NR_2''''$; $-OH$; $-OR''''$; $-CONR_2''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-CO_2Z'$; $-CO_2R''''$; $-NH_2$; $-NHR''''$; $-NR_2''''$; $-OR''''$; $-CONR_2''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-CO_2Z'$; $-CO_2R''''$; $-NH_2$; $-NHR''''$; $-NR_2''''$; $-OH$; $-OR''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; or $-(CH_2)_x$ -Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

R''' independently represents a hydrogen atom; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; optionally substituted C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; optionally substituted C₆-C₁₀ aryl; or NR₂'''' represents a cyclic moiety; moiety;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A'' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B'' each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A'' and B'' jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'', -O-, or -S-.

²⁹
~~92.~~ (Currently amended) A method according to claim ²⁸~~91~~, wherein R' represents ~~-CO₂R''', -CO₂R''', -CO₂Z' or -CONR₂'''' wherein R''' represents hydrogen or methyl or at least one R''' independently represents a hydrogen atom, methyl, or methoxy.~~

³⁰
~~93.~~ (Currently amended) A method according to claim ³⁷~~150~~ 91, wherein R' represents ~~-CO₂R''' wherein R''' represents hydrogen or methyl.~~

³¹
~~94.~~ (Currently amended) A method according to claim ⁹¹~~154~~ 91, wherein R' represents ~~CONR₂'''' wherein both R'''' are the same and represent a hydrogen atom, atom or methyl, or methoxy.~~

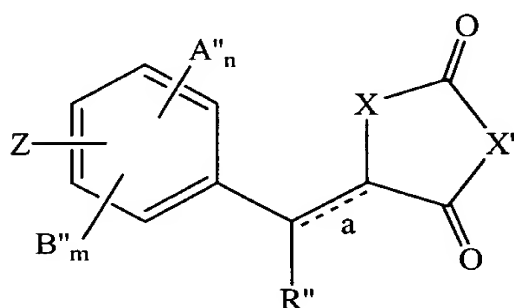
C

- 32/95. (Previously presented) A method according to claim ²⁸91, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.
- 33/96. (Previously presented) A method according to claim ²⁹92, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.
- 34/97. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ⁸⁷93 150, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.
- 35/98. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ⁸⁹94 152, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.
- 36/99. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ²⁹92, wherein the bond labeled "a" a represents a single bond ~~and b represents a double bond~~.
- 37/100. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ²⁹92, wherein at least ~~two~~ one A groups ~~represent~~ group represents methoxy.
- 38/101. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ²⁹92, wherein at least two A groups represent a hydrogen ~~bond~~ atom.
- 39/102. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ³⁷100, wherein at least two A groups represent a hydrogen ~~bond~~ atom.
- 40/103. (Currently amended) A method according to claim ⁸⁸91, ~~wherein R' is carbomethoxy~~ and 151 wherein said A is-group represents methoxy.
- 41/104. (Currently amended) The method of claim ⁹⁰94 153 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.

C

- 42/ 105. (Currently amended) The method of claim 92 ³⁷100 wherein said pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion is selected from sodium, potassium, calcium, magnesium, ammonium, tromethamine, or tetramethylammonium.

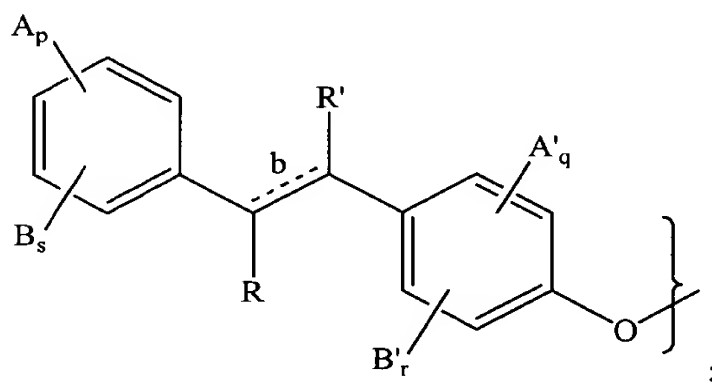
- 43/ 106. (Previously presented) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

wherein Z is



n , m , q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a and b represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

c1 R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; or -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, A' and A'' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B'' each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A'' and B'' jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR''', -O-, or -S-.

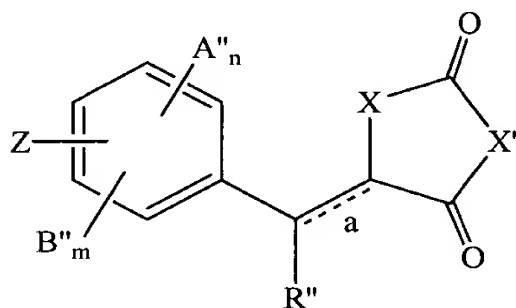
44 107. (Currently amended) A method according to claim 106, wherein R' represents 43
-CO₂R''' or -CO₂Z' ~~wherein R''' represents hydrogen or methyl.~~

C

~~45~~ 108. (Previously presented) A method according to claim ~~106~~⁴³, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

~~46~~ 109. (Previously presented) A method according to claim ~~107~~⁴⁴, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

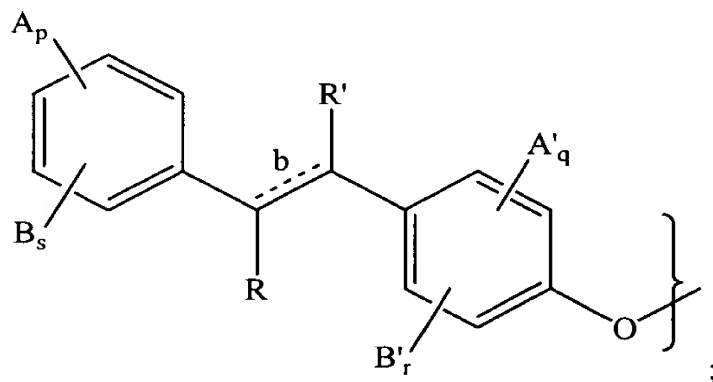
~~47~~ 110. (Previously presented). A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

wherein Z is



H; A''; or B'';

n, m, q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a and b

C

represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R and R' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

C¹ R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; -CO₂Z'; -CO₂R'''; -NH₂; -NHR'''; -NR₂'''; -OH; -OR'''; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl; or -(CH₂)_x-Ar, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

A, and A' each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

A'' independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; or halo;

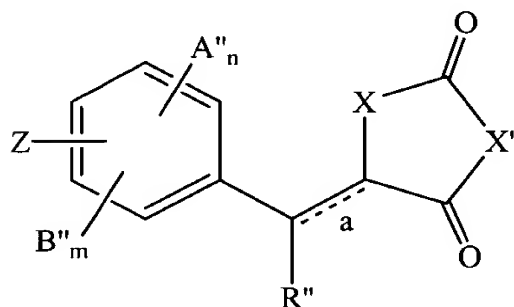
B, B' and B'' each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

C

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A'' and B'' jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'', -O-, or -S-.

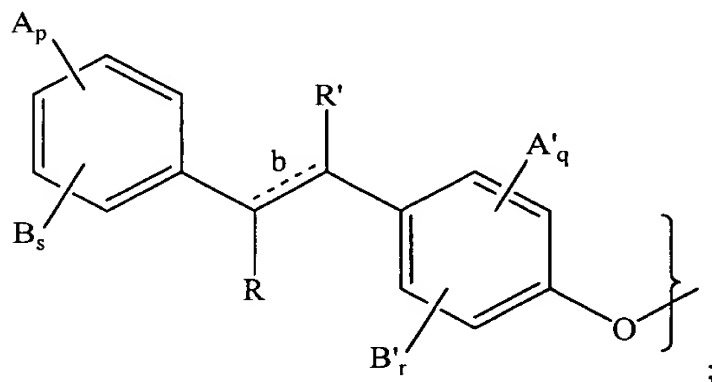
48/111. (Previously presented) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of a compound represented by the following formula 1:



[1]

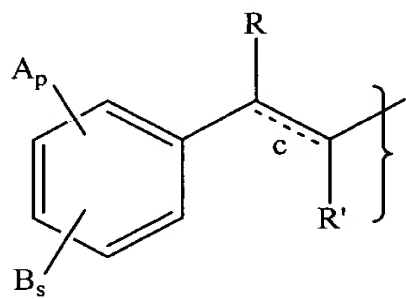
in a physiologically acceptable carrier;

wherein Z is



or

C



n , m , q and r independently represent integers from zero to 4 provided that $n + m \leq 4$ and $q + r \leq 4$; p and s independently represent integers from zero to 5 provided that $p + s \leq 5$; a , b and c represent double bonds which may be present or absent; when present, the double bonds may be in the E or Z configuration and, when absent, the resulting stereocenters may have the R- or S- configuration;

R independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-\text{CO}_2\text{Z}'$; $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}''''$; $-\text{NH}_2$; $-\text{NHR}''''$; $-\text{NR}_2''''$; $-\text{OH}$; $-\text{OR}''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-\text{CO}_2\text{Z}'$; $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}''''$; $-\text{NH}_2$; $-\text{NHR}''''$; $-\text{NR}_2''''$; $-\text{OR}''''$; $-\text{CONR}_2''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R'' independently represents a hydrogen atom; linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; $-\text{CO}_2\text{Z}'$; $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}''''$; $-\text{NH}_2$; $-\text{NHR}''''$; $-\text{NR}_2''''$; $-\text{OH}$; $-\text{OR}''''$; halogen atom; optionally substituted linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; optionally substituted linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl;

R''' independently represents a linear or branched C_1 - C_{20} alkyl; linear or branched C_2 - C_{20} alkenyl; or $-(\text{CH}_2)_x\text{-Ar}$, where x represents an integer from 1 to 6 and Ar represents aryl;

Z' represents a hydrogen atom or a pharmaceutically acceptable counter-ion;

C

A, A' and A" each independently represent a hydrogen atom; C₁-C₂₀ acylamino; C₁-C₂₀ acyloxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkanoyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl; C₁-C₂₀ alkoxy; C₁-C₂₀ alkylamino; C₁-C₂₀ alkylcarboxylamino; carboxyl; cyano; halo; or hydroxy;

B, B' and B" each independently represent; C₂-C₂₀ alkenoyl; aroyl; aralkanoyl; nitro; optionally substituted, linear or branched C₁-C₂₀ alkyl; or optionally substituted, linear or branched C₂-C₂₀ alkenyl;

or A and B jointly, A' and B' jointly, or A" and B" jointly, independently represent a methylenedioxy or ethylenedioxy group; and

X and X' independently represent >NH, >NR'', -O-, or -S-.

⁴⁹
112. (Previously presented) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of 3-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxothiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylic acid in a physiologically acceptable carrier.

⁵⁰
113. (Previously presented) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of 3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylamide in a physiologically acceptable carrier.

⁵¹
114. (Previously presented) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of 5-(4-(4-(1-carbomethoxy-2-)3,5-dimethoxy phenyl) ethenyl)-phenoxy)-benzyl)-2,4-thiazolidinedione in a physiologically acceptable carrier.

⁵²
115. (New) A method according to claim ²~~62~~ wherein R' represents -CO₂R''.

⁵³
~~116.~~ (New) A method according to claim ⁵²~~115~~ wherein R''' represents methyl.

⁵⁴
~~117.~~ (New) A method according to claim ²~~62~~ wherein R' represents -CO₂Z'.

⁵⁵
~~118.~~ (New) A method according to claim ⁵⁴~~117~~ wherein Z' is a pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion.

⁵⁶
~~119.~~ (New) A method according to claim ²~~62~~ wherein R' represents -CONR₂'''.

⁵⁷
~~120.~~ (New) A method according to claim ⁵⁶~~119~~ wherein at least one R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom, methyl or methoxy.

⁵⁸
~~121.~~ (New) A method according to claim ⁵⁶~~119~~, wherein both R'''' are the same and represent a hydrogen atom or methyl.

⁵⁹
~~122.~~ (New) A method according to claim ⁵⁶~~119~~, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

⁶⁰
~~123.~~ (New) A method according to claim ¹~~61~~ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond.

⁶¹
~~124.~~ (New) A method according to claim ⁷~~69~~ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond.

⁶²
~~125.~~ (New) A method of claim ⁵~~67~~ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula 1 represents a single bond.

⁶³
~~126.~~ (New) A method of claim ⁶~~68~~ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula 1 represents a single bond.

⁶⁴
~~127.~~ (New) A method of claim ⁵⁶~~119~~ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula 1 represents a single bond.

- ⁶⁵
~~128.~~ (New) A method of claim ²~~62~~ wherein at least two A groups represent methoxy.
- ⁶⁶
~~129.~~ (New) A method of claim ¹~~61~~ wherein A' and B' represent hydrogen atoms.
- ⁶⁷
~~130.~~ (New) A method of claim ¹~~61~~ wherein A'' and B'' represent hydrogen atoms.
- ⁶⁸
~~131.~~ (New) A method of claim ¹~~61~~ wherein A', A'', B' and B'' all represent hydrogen atoms.
- ⁶⁹
~~132.~~ (New) A method according to claim ⁶²~~125~~ wherein A', A'', B' and B'' all represent hydrogen atoms.
- ⁷⁰
~~133.~~ (New) A method according to claim ¹⁵~~77~~ wherein R' represents -CO₂R'''.
- ⁷¹
~~134.~~ (New) A method according to claim ⁷⁰~~133~~ wherein R''' represents methyl.
- ⁷²
~~135.~~ (New) A method according to claim ¹⁵~~77~~ wherein R' represents -CO₂Z'.
- ⁷³
~~136.~~ (New) A method according to claim ⁷²~~135~~ wherein Z' is a pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion.
- ⁷⁴
~~137.~~ (New) A method according to claim ¹⁵~~77~~ wherein R' represents -CONR₂'''.
- ⁷⁵
~~138.~~ (New) A method according to claim ⁷⁴~~137~~ wherein at least one R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom, methyl or methoxy.
- ⁷⁶
~~139.~~ (New) A method according to claim ⁷⁴~~137~~, wherein both R'''' are the same and represent a hydrogen atom or methyl.

~~77~~
140. (New) A method according to claim ~~76~~¹⁴ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond.

~~78~~
141. (New) A method according to claim ~~84~~²¹ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond.

~~79~~
142. (New) A method of claim ~~133~~⁷⁰ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula 1 represents a single bond.

~~80~~
143. (New) A method of claim ~~135~~⁷² wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula 1 represents a single bond.

~~81~~
144. (New) A method of claim ~~137~~⁷⁴ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula 1 represents a single bond.

~~82~~
145. (New) A method of claim ~~77~~¹⁵ wherein at least two A groups represent methoxy.

~~83~~
146. (New) A method of claim ~~76~~¹⁴ wherein A' and B' represent hydrogen atoms.

~~84~~
147. (New) A method of claim ~~76~~¹⁴ wherein A'' and B'' represent hydrogen atoms.

~~85~~
148. (New) A method of claim ~~76~~¹⁴ wherein A', A'', B' and B'' all represent hydrogen atoms.

~~86~~
149. (New) A method according to claim ~~133~~⁷⁰ wherein A', A'', B' and B'' all represent hydrogen atoms.

~~87~~
150. (New) A method according to claim ~~92~~²⁹ wherein R' represents -CO₂R'''.

~~88~~
151. (New) A method according to claim ~~130~~³⁷ wherein R''' represents methyl.

C

- ~~89~~²⁹
~~152.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~92~~²⁹ wherein R' represents $-\text{CO}_2\text{Z}'$.
- ~~90~~⁸⁹
~~153.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~152~~⁸⁹ wherein Z' is a pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion.
- ~~91~~²⁹
~~154.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~92~~²⁹ wherein R' represents $-\text{CONR}_2''''$.
- ~~92~~⁹¹
~~155.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~154~~⁹¹ wherein at least one R'''' independently represents a hydrogen atom, methyl or methoxy.
- C ~~93~~⁹²
~~156.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~155~~⁹² wherein both R'''' are the same and represent a hydrogen atom or methyl.
- ~~94~~⁹¹
~~157.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~154~~⁹¹, wherein X is $-\text{S}-$ and X' is $>\text{NH}$.
- ~~95~~²⁸
~~158.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~91~~²⁸ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond.
- ~~96~~³⁶
~~159.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~99~~³⁶ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond.
- ~~97~~⁸⁷
~~160.~~ (New) A method of claim ~~150~~⁸⁷ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula 1 represents a single bond.
- ~~98~~⁸⁹
~~161.~~ (New) A method of claim ~~152~~⁸⁹ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula 1 represents a single bond.
- ~~99~~⁹¹
~~162.~~ (New) A method of claim ~~154~~⁹¹ wherein the bond labeled "b" in formula 1 represents a double bond and the bond labeled "a" in formula 1 represents a single bond.
- ~~100~~⁴⁴
~~163.~~ (New) A method according to claim ~~107~~⁴⁴ wherein R' represents $-\text{CO}_2\text{R}'''$.
- C

¹⁰¹
~~164.~~ (New) A method according to claim ¹⁰⁰~~163~~ wherein R''' represents methyl.

¹⁰²
~~165.~~ (New) A method according to claim ⁴⁴~~107~~ wherein R' represents -CO₂Z'.

¹⁰³
~~166.~~ (New) A method according to claim ¹⁰²~~165~~ wherein Z' is a pharmaceutically acceptable counter ion.

¹⁰⁴
~~167.~~ (New) A method according to claim ¹⁰⁰~~163~~, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

¹⁰⁵
~~168.~~ (New) A method according to claim ¹⁰²~~165~~, wherein X is -S- and X' is >NH.

¹⁰⁶
~~169.~~ (New) A method of treating diabetes comprising the steps of administering to a subject suffering from a diabetic condition, a therapeutically effective amount of 3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-N,N-dimethyl-acrylamide in a physiologically acceptable carrier.

¹⁰⁷
~~170.~~ (New) A method of claim ²~~62~~ wherein said compound is selected from the group consisting of 3-(3,5-dimethoxyphenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylic acid,
3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylamide,
3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-N,N-dimethyl-acrylamide,
3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-N-methoxy,-N-methyl-acrylamide,
3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylidenemethyl)-phenoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid methyl ester,

3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylidenemethyl)-
phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylic acid methyl ester,

3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-
phenyl}-propionic acid,

3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolid in-5-ylidenemethyl)-
phenoxy]-phenyl}-propionic acid,

3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylidenemethyl)-
phenoxy]-phenyl}-acrylic acid, and

3-(3,5-dimethoxy-phenyl)-2-{4-[4-(2,4-dioxo-thiazolidin-5-ylmethyl)-phenoxy]-
phenyl}-propionic acid methyl ester.

21
encl.

C